

OU 84-3961

OLL 84-3689

18 October 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Testimony of the Director of Personnel on
H.R. 5805, the Mazzoli Former Spouse Bill

1. On 12 September 1984 at 10:00, the Subcommittee on Legislation of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence held a closed hearing on H.R. 5805, Chairman Mazzoli's bill to provide retirement benefits to former CIARDS spouses. In his opening statement, Chairman Mazzoli indicated that the 1982 Spousal Equity Act recognized the special service that CIARDS spouses performed. However, this 1982 act applied prospectively and consequently created an inequity with regard to CIARDS spouses divorced prior to 1982. Following Mazzoli's open statement, Representative Pat Schroder (D-Colorado.) gave a brief statement to the effect that the 1982 spousal legislation was only a partial solution and that Mazzoli's bill was an appropriate remedy for the inequities of the 1982 act. Representative Schroder noted similar legislation for Foreign Service former spouses had been proposed in H.R. 5598. [redacted]

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2. Following Representative Schroder, Jack Blake, former DDA and former Staff Director for the SSCI, testified. Mr. Blake agreed that the principle had already been established that CIARDS former spouses deserved the relief contained in the spousal legislation. Mr. Blake stressed two additional points. First, most of the CIA's spouses who were divorced prior to 1982 would be those spouses who had served on comparatively difficult tour of duties such as Viet Nam. Second, the sanitary and health conditions around the world prior to 1982 were much worse than they are now. As a consequence, Mr. Blake felt that the health benefits provision in H.R. 5805 is necessary for CIARDS former spouses. Chairman Mazzoli asked whether as a tax payer Mr. Blake would have a problem with seeing Government funds expended in the fashion contemplated in H.R. 5805. Mr. Blake responded that he would not have a problem. In his estimation, it was a question either the grant contemplated under H.R. 5805 or welfare for many of these CIA former spouses. [redacted]

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[redacted] 25X1

C O N F I D E N T I A L

3. Following Mr. Blake, a panel of CIA former spouse representatives testified. The panel consisted of [redacted] gave a brier presentation the thrust of which was that CIA's former spouses fulfill their trust and remain loyal citizens despite the disadvantages they accrue as a result of their service abroad. Following [redacted] reaffirmed that CIA spouses contribute to the Agency's mission in a very real and important way. [redacted]

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4. At this point in the testimony Chairman Boland appeared at the hearing. Mr. Boland said that the Mazzoli bill would correct an apparent inequity in the 1982 Act and that the legislative history on the 1982 Act clearly indicated that the treatment of spouses divorced prior to 1982 would be revisited at some time in the future. [redacted]

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5. The last witness was Robert W. Magee, Director of Personnel for the CIA. Mr. Magee submitted his statement for the record and summarized briefly from it. Mr. Mazzoli asked whether or not Mr. Magee would be able to locate the former spouses that would fall under the bill. Mr. Magee indicated that we would locate these people. Following this question, Mr. Magee stated his pleasure at being able to endorse the contributions of CIARDS former spouses and his wish to work with the Committee in this regard and on other CIA personnel matters. [redacted]

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Office of Legislative Liaison

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